

## CROSS-REFERENCES TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

§1  
This application is a divisional of U.S. Application Serial No. 08/952,969, filed March 11, 1998 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,255,477, issued July 3, 2001), which is a 35 U. S. C. § 371 national phase filing of International Application No. PCT/EP96/02459, which was filed with the Patent Cooperation Treaty on June 6, 1996, and is entitled to priority under 35 U. S. C. § 119 to German Patent Applications 195 37 985.3, filed October 12, 1995 and 195 20 398.4, filed June 8, 1995, each of which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

Please insert following the cross-references to related applications inserted on page 1, --

## BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

§2  
Field of the Invention --

Please insert on page 1, between lines 6 and 7, --

Description of the Related

§3  
Art.

Please insert on page 2, between lines 21 and 22, --

## SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION --

§4  
Please insert on page 3, between lines 2 and 3, --

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figure 1 illustrates the isolation of nucleic acids from a sample containing cells.

§5  
Figure 2 illustrates the separation of isolated nucleic acids according to the invention in an agarose gel.

Figure 3 depicts the separation of reaction products after isolation according to the invention and amplification by means of the PCR.

Figure 4 shows a gel with the results from example 4. --

~~Please cancel lines 19-24 on page 12.~~

Please insert following the description of drawings inserted on page 3, --

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION --.

IN THE CLAIMS

~~Please cancel Claim 19-22 without prejudice.~~

Please amend Claims 25-26 as follows. A clean version of each amended claim appears below and a marked-up version is set forth in **Exhibit A**.

25. (Amended) The method of claim 23 wherein the bound nucleic acids are separated from the fluid with a magnetic field.

26. (Amended) The method of claim 23 wherein the magnetic particle is not subjected to the influence of a magnetic field before being brought in contact with sample and is thus able to sediment when being brought in contact with the sample.

Please add new Claims 27-28 as follows.

27. (New) The method of claim 23 wherein any pores in the glass surface of said magnetic particle have a diameter of less than 1 nm.

28. (New) The method of claim 23, further comprising eluting said bound nucleic acids from said magnetic particle.

REMARKS

Claims 13-26 were pending and under consideration in the July 30, 2002 Office Action. Claims 13-18 were withdrawn from consideration and Claims 19-26 were rejected. Claims 19-22 have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 25-26 have been